

Therefore, I ask all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

As our friend and brother, the late John Lewis, said so well: "The time is right. The time is now."

Our Power, Our Message.

BUILD BACK BROKE

(Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, President Biden looks to call his phony tax-and-spend plan Build Back Better when it actually should be called build back broke. It broke last night, and it is breaking this week.

This plan is a disaster for Americans and the future of our small businesses. The National Federation of Independent Business recently reported that over two-thirds of small businesses faced significant impacts from the supply chain disruptions. Fifty-one percent of owners reported they are still unable to fill job openings. And uncertainty about the future among small business owners increased by 5 points, according to the NFIB Uncertainty Index.

American small businesses are facing unprecedented challenges, and unfortunately, Washington bureaucrats are turning their backs on their concerns and pushing ahead to increase taxes, fuel rising inflation, and expand government control.

I came to Washington to fight for Main Street America. That is what I am. And every American should know these closed-door negotiations and socialist policies are fiscal insanity and will crush our economy.

Cut taxes and save our economy, a new concept.

In God We Trust.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT JESSE SHERRILL

(Mr. PAPPAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and service of New Hampshire State Police Staff Sergeant Jesse Sherrill. Staff Sergeant Sherrill was tragically killed on October 28 when his cruiser was struck by a tractor-trailer when he was on duty working an overnight detail.

This is an immeasurable loss for his family and community and the entire State of New Hampshire.

Today, our State will pause for a celebration of life for Staff Sergeant Sherrill. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife and their children and extended family. We must never forget his dedicated service to keeping our State safe and the burden borne by the Sherrill family.

My thoughts are also with the men and women of the New Hampshire State Police and law enforcement community that has lost one of its own.

Day in and day out, those who serve and protect our communities risk their own safety for all of us. We can never forget their sacrifice.

I urge Granite Staters to take time to reflect on the legacy of Staff Sergeant Sherrill and to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Through this horrible tragedy, we must honor his example and keep his memory alive.

RECOGNIZING WILLIE JETT

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Cloud area school district superintendent Willie Jett. Willie will be retiring from his role as superintendent at the end of this school year, ending 8 years in service to the district.

During his tenure, Willie has been an advocate for students, a leader for faculty, and an ally to parents. When the district experienced challenges, Willie focused on a student-centric approach to education. Willie's leadership prioritized the performance of each student and provided the support they needed to thrive.

Willie led the St. Cloud school district through times of crisis and change. He helped schools rebuild after fires and successfully navigated the COVID-19 crisis. Willie oversaw the construction of the new St. Cloud Tech High School and an early childhood education center. Willie even participated in one of our Congressional telephone townhalls to answer questions about remote learning for families across the St. Cloud community.

Willie remains a friend and leader in our community. Willie's presence in the St. Cloud school district will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I thank Willie for all of his work, and I wish him good luck in the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of November as National Family Caregivers Month.

Nearly 600,000 New Yorkers are caregivers for loved ones living with dementia. This is difficult work, and it takes an emotional toll that too often goes unrecognized.

My bill, the Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act, would enact higher-quality dementia care standards in Medicare and Medicaid. It broadens assistance, including direct education and support for caregivers and improved access to high-quality doctors with expertise in dementia.

Dementia care is very complex, so we need to do all we can to make sure the

patients and their families have what they need.

I hear regularly from my Alzheimer's advocates in Buffalo and western New York and throughout New York that much more needs to be done.

This bill can help them get the best possible care for their loved ones while providing support to them as caregivers. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HIGH COST OF A BIDEN THANKSGIVING

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as Biden continues to push the insulting \$3.5 trillion Big Government socialist scheme, real Americans will see their Thanksgiving 2021 "shaping up to be the most expensive meal in the history of the holiday," as reported by MSNBC.

The price of turkey already costs 25 cents more per pound. It is not the only part of the holiday to take a bite out of your family account, with Biden inflation destroying jobs.

"Nearly every component of the traditional American Thanksgiving dinner, from the disposable aluminum turkey roasting pan to the coffee and pie, will cost more this year," as sadly admitted by The New York Times.

Democrat elite think they are smarter than anyone, and they believe Democrat voters are ignorant to believe that \$3.5 trillion in spending costs zero dollars.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from Afghanistan to America.

Congratulations to the people of Virginia and New Jersey and Springdale Mayor-elect Justin Ricard.

MAKING GOOD DECISIONS WITH GOOD INFORMATION

(Ms. BOURDEAUX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution, H. Con. Res. 44, which the House will consider later today.

When I came to Congress, I promised my constituents that we would make responsible decisions about our Nation's fiscal future. It is extremely difficult, however, to make good decisions without good information.

The Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution will require the Comptroller General to provide an annual assessment of our Nation's finances to Congress, a small but important first step in getting our fiscal house in order.

Similarly, my bipartisan bill, the Duplication Scoring Act, would ensure

Members are aware when new bills potentially duplicate existing programs in areas which have already been identified by the GAO.

I urge all Members to support passage of the Fiscal State of the Nation act today and renew our commitment to putting our Nation on a sustainable fiscal trajectory.

VACCINE MANDATE UNDERMINES ESSENTIAL SERVICES

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, when the coronavirus shut down this country, first responders and healthcare professionals kept our communities going and safe. The essential services they provide can't be done from behind a computer screen, Madam Speaker.

Joe Biden's vaccine mandate undermines the preparedness of these services. The Americans we celebrated for the last 20 months are now forced to get the coronavirus vaccine or be fired from their jobs. It is disgusting that the Biden administration is threatening these public servants' livelihoods over these issues.

Our country cannot afford labor shortages in essential services. Look at law enforcement, for example. The defund the police movement continues to embolden criminals and lower morale among the law enforcement community.

On top of these problems, thousands of police officers are facing termination thanks to Biden's vaccine mandate.

This is a recipe for disaster amidst rising crime. I guarantee that if you are in danger of or a victim of crime, the last thing on your mind will be the vaccination status of the responding officer.

Congress needs to stand up for these essential workers under attack from Joe Biden's vaccine mandate. This week, I will introduce legislation allowing these workers to decide for themselves on taking the coronavirus vaccine, free from threats of termination if they decide against getting the shot, Madam Speaker. No American citizen should be fired for making a healthcare decision they believe is in their best interest.

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HEALTH EQUITY PROVISIONS OF BUILD BACK BETTER

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to pass the Build Back Better Act.

The Build Back Better Act will bring transformational change to the Amer-

ican people, create a more equitable healthcare system, and save lives.

One of the greatest ongoing injustices in our country is just how many people do not have access to affordable healthcare. That population is overwhelmingly made up of people of color and rural Americans.

Policymakers and medical institutions have not prioritized the healthcare needs of communities of color and rural communities. The Build Back Better Act will help these communities by closing the healthcare coverage gap, create more affordable coverage options, expand benefits for seniors, invest in improving access to mental health and substance use disorders, attack the gun violence epidemic with public-health focused interventions, invest in addressing the Black maternal mortality crisis, and lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

Investing in affordable care, preventive care, and targeted reductions in violence will result in fewer extreme health scenarios, fewer emergency room visits, and over time, will save us money and reduce the burden on our healthcare system.

Healthcare is a human right. Passing the Build Back Better Act is a step in the right direction.

RECOGNIZING FFA NATIONAL PRESIDENT COLE BAERLOCHER

(Mrs. RODGERS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Eastern Washington's finest young men, Cole Baerlocher.

Cole is a student at Washington State University, and he recently was elected to serve as the next national president of the Future Farmers of America.

For Cole, his family, and our entire community, this is a huge deal. Cole is from Colfax, the county seat of Whitman County, the top wheat-producing county in America.

Having him serve as the face of this organization is a tremendous honor. The FFA has more than 735,000 members; 37 candidates were considered for the honor of serving as president. Only one was selected to lead, and that person was Cole.

Cole, I know I speak for our entire community when I say congratulations on this incredible achievement. We could not be more proud. Go Cougs!

BUILD BACK BETTER CHILDCARE

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the inclusion of universal childcare and early education as part of the President's Build Back Better legislative agenda.

In Massachusetts, a family with two young children spends on average 28

percent of their income on childcare for 1 year. The Build Back Better Act will provide universal, high-quality, free preschool for every three- and four-year-old in America. It will ensure that a four-person Massachusetts family making up to \$170,000 pays no more than 7 percent of their income on high-quality childcare.

Investing in the health and education of our children is the best long-term investment our country can make. With our future in mind, we must provide access to as many families as possible, as soon as possible. This will require raising provider wages to a living wage immediately and ensuring that more families can benefit in year one when we pass the Build Back Better Act.

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. STAUBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, this time last year, America was energy independent. Now our Nation is facing a full-blown energy crisis, leaving the American people to ask, "What changed?"

Well, the answer is simple.

Unlike the Trump administration, the Biden administration is determined to make it more difficult for American energy producers to develop affordable and reliable energy here at home.

On his first day in office, Joe Biden canceled the Keystone pipeline. Soon after, he banned all new oil and gas leases on Federal lands. As a result, Americans are paying exponentially more at the pump with gas prices reaching a 7-year high. And this winter, the cost to heat our homes is expected to jump 54 percent.

As the top Republican on the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, I have been disappointed to see Joe Biden and Democrats in Congress double down on their failed agenda by pushing a \$5.5 trillion tax-and-spend package that will only increase our energy prices.

Instead of canceling commonsense energy projects, let's empower American energy workers to do what they do best. Instead of targeting American energy companies, let's make it easier for them to increase domestic oil and gas production.

If we do this, the next century can be an American century.

BUILD BACK BETTER AGENDA

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Build Back Better agenda.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make transformational change for women, transformational change for families, and communities